

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 **Claim 1 (Original):** A device for generating an image from
2 an IR radiation comprising a detection module (1) including a
3 plurality of heat detectors (2) each having a specific electric
4 resistance and being polarised so as to deliver a signal
5 representing a detected IR radiation, said device comprising a
6 read module (8) intended to convert said electric signal into a
7 signal which can be used by an image processing block (18) and
8 an electric signal compensation module (10) comprising a first
9 branch (12) making it possible to carry out a first thresholding
10 intended to extract from said electric signal a first constant
11 value signal due to the polarisation of the heat detectors (1),
12 a device characterised in that the compensation module (10)
13 comprises at least one second branch (30) making it possible to
14 carry out a second thresholding intended to extract from the
15 electric signal resulting from the first thresholding at least
16 one second low-level signal due to the dispersion of the electric
17 resistances of the heat detectors and/or to the fluctuations in
18 the temperature of the focal plane of the detection module.

1 **Claim 2 (Original):** A device according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that said second branch (30) is connected to a
3 correction circuit (32) intended to generate, for each heat
4 detector, a specific setting allowing the extraction of said

5 second signal to be controlled.

1 **Claim 3 (Original):** A device according to one of claims 1
2 or 2, characterised in that the second branch (30) comprises a
3 passive heat detector (34) mounted in series with a second
4 transistor (36) the conduction of which is controlled by said
5 specific setting.

1 **Claim 4 (Original):** A device according to claim 2,
2 characterised in that the second branch (30) comprises only a
3 current source and a first control transistor (36) the conduction
4 of which is controlled by said specific setting.

1 **Claim 5 (Original):** A device according to claim 1,
2 characterised in that the second branch (30) comprises a
3 plurality of subbranches (52,54,56) mounted in parallel, each
4 sub-branch being able to conduct a pre-set current.

1 **Claim 6 (Currently amended):** A device according to ~~one of~~
2 ~~the claims~~ claim 1 to 4, characterised in that the first branch
3 (12) comprises a passive heat detector (14) provided in series
4 with a first control transistor (22) the conduction of which is
5 controlled by a constant voltage.

1 **Claim 7 (Original):** A device according to claim 6,
2 characterised in that each heat detector (2) is constituted by
3 a micro-bolometer.

1 **Claim 8 (Currently amended):** A device according to ~~claims~~
2 claim 3 ~~and 7~~, characterised in that the second passive
3 micro-bolometer (34) of the second branch (34) has a high
4 resistance relative to the resistance of the first passive micro-
5 bolometer (14) of the first one (12).

1 **Claim 9 (Original):** A device according to claim 3,
2 characterised in that the correction circuit (32) comprises a
3 generator (40) intended to provide a digital setting, a
4 digital-to-analogue converter (42) intended to convert said
5 digital setting into analogue voltage so as to control the second
6 transistor (36).

1 **Claim 10 (Original):** A device according to claim 9,
2 characterised in that the correction circuit (32) additionally
3 comprises an attenuation module (44).

1 **Claim 11 (Original):** A device according to claim 4,
2 characterised in that the correction circuit (32) comprises a DC
3 voltage generator (50) intended to supply a DC analogue voltage
4 allowing the current in said second branch (30) to be regulated.

1 **Claim 12 (Currently amended):** A device according to ~~one of~~
2 ~~the claims 1 to~~ claim 11, characterised in that the compensation
3 block (10) comprises a control loop making it possible to
4 re-inject into each of the thresholding branches (12), (30) a
5 measurement of the temperature of the focal plane of the
6 detection module (1) so as to modulate the values of the signals

7 extracted by the first branch (12) and the second branch (30) as
8 a function of the temperature of the focal plane of detection.

1 **Claim 13 (Original):** A device according to claim 12,
2 characterised in that the active micro-bolometers (2) are
3 distributed over the focal plane of the detection device in M
4 lines and N columns.

1 **Claim 14 (Original):** A device according to claim 9,
2 characterised in that the digital-to-analogue converter (42) is
3 integrated monolithically with the micro-bolometer (2).

1 **Claim 15 (Currently amended):** A device according to ~~one of~~
2 ~~the claims~~ claim 1 to 14, characterised in that one of the first
3 and second branches (12,30) is dedicated to compensating for
4 resistance dispersions and the other branch is dedicated to
5 compensating for temperature fluctuations in the focal plane.

1 **Claim 16 (Original):** A device according to claim 15,
2 characterised in that the second branch (30) comprises two
3 sub-branches, each sub-branch including a balanced current source
4 associated with a switching transistor controlled by a digital
5 signal.

1 **Claim 17 (Original):** A process for correcting an electric
2 signal representing an IR radiation detected by a heat detector
3 (2) having a specific electric resistance, said process
4 comprising a first stage allowing a first polarisation signal

5 having a constant value to be extracted from the electric signal,
6 a process characterised in that it comprises a second stage
7 consisting in extracting from the electric signal a second
8 signal, of low level relative to the first signal.

1 **Claim 18 (Original):** A process according to claim 17,
2 characterised in that it comprises a stage consisting in
3 generating a specific setting allowing the extraction of said
4 second signal to be controlled.

1 **Claim 19 (Original):** A process according to claim 18,
2 characterised in that it comprises a heat detector (2)
3 calibration phase comprising the following stages:

4 a) defocusing the scene;
5 b) storing the signal resulting from the previous stage;
6 c) using the stored signal to control the extraction of
7 the low level signal.

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2. This sheet, which includes Figs. 1 and 2, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1 and 2. The figures have been labeled "Prior Art".

Attachment: Replacement Sheet